

158374

SITE STATUS RECOMMENDATION

This author recommends that the Sauget Area 2 sites be advanced to scoring for the National Priorities Listing. This recommendation is based upon the numerous sampling events which have taken place at the sites over the years as well as the targets which the sites are either impacting currently or have the potential to impact.

The Sauget Area 2 sites are located within the corporate limits of the villages of Sauget and Cahokia, St. Clair County, Illinois, near and or along the banks of the Mississippi River. The sites currently consist of three landfills and one set of wastewater settling lagoons. Two of the landfills were used to dispose of municipal as well as industrial wastes. One landfill was used only for industrial waste. The wastewater lagoons were used to dewater sludge from the old village of Sauget wastewater treatment plant, which received most of their effluent from the local industrial complex.

The sites are located in an area of heavy industry. The sites are bordered by the Mississippi River to the west, to the east by farmfields and industries, to the north by vacated land (with no current evidence of previous activities), and to the south by the village of Cahokia.

Groundwater in the area is believed to be largely unused, with the exception of a few who may use the groundwater for drinking or gardening purposes. Groundwater in the area has shown to be contaminated with volatiles, semi-volatiles, pesticides, PCBs, and heavy metals. Groundwater flows into the surface waters of the Mississippi River.

The surface waters of the Mississippi River are currently being impacted by groundwater as well as numerous leachate seeps along the banks of the Area 2 sites. Sampling has revealed the presence of volatiles, semi-volatiles, pesticides, PCBs, and heavy metals. The Mississippi River is a source of drinking water for numerous communities downstream from the sites, a fishery, as well as supporting sensitive environments.

The Sauget sites are unique in that two of the sites are enclosed by fencing and are under constant surveillance, and two of the sites are unfenced with evidence of human activities. Contaminants have been detected within the top two feet of soil.

Population within a four-mile radius of the site is estimated to be 175,000, which includes part of the city of St. Louis, Missouri.

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